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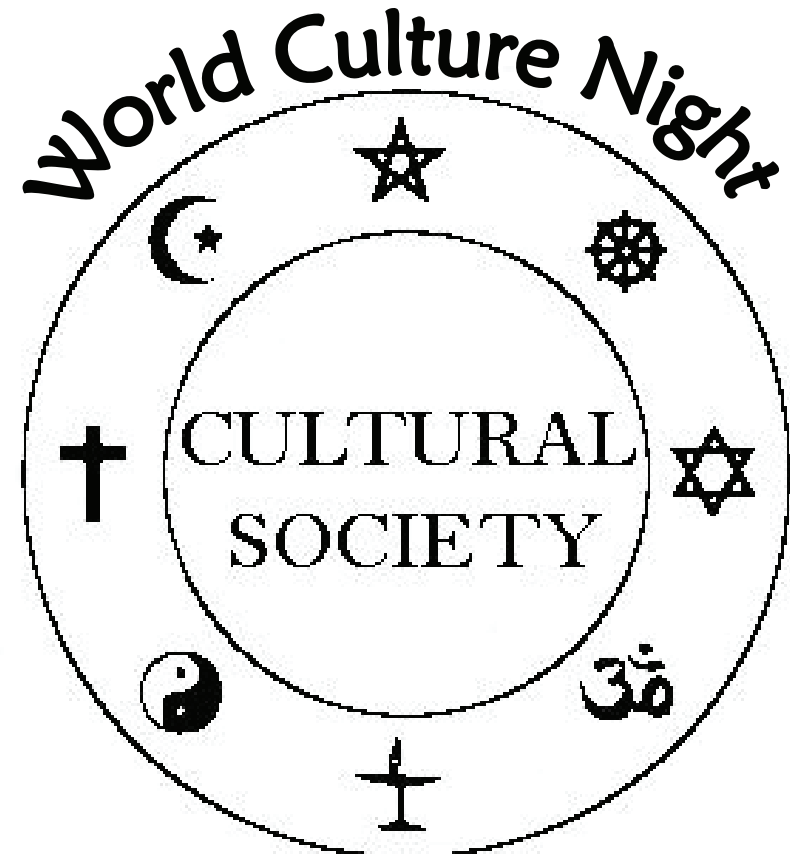
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**The Cultural Society of  
Valley Stream South H.S.**

presents



**Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**6:30 – 9:30 PM**

## Cultural Society Advisors

Mr. Jeffrey Hsi

## Cultural Society Officers

Michael Hung	President
Amy Evron	Vice President
Nicholas Chong	Vice President
Christian O'Brien	Vice President
Saba Kabir	Vice President

## Special Thanks to ...

Mrs. Ellen Hsi - Assistant Advisor  
Johnathan Topol - Lighting  
Patty Chow and the Chinese Center of LI  
Randy Yung  
Jason Hsi  
Stage Crew  
Falcon Report Crew  
Parents Club  
Ross Lipsky  
Jennifer Schultz

## Bollywood Dance

The dancing in Bollywood films, especially older ones, is primarily modeled on traditional Indian dance. In modern films, Indian dance elements often blend with Western dance styles. The hero or heroine will often perform with a troupe of supporting dancers.

**Performed By:** Asma Alvi, Mohammed Ansari, Sydney Bhagratti, Veronica Bohorquez, Samara Bustamante, Elia Cabrera, Zoe Carpentieri, Nazahah Dar, Che-tram Deochand, Amy Evron, Kim Faust, Victoria Galante, Melissa Harnanan, Yaaseen Hossen, AJ Hossen, Sharmayal Jamil, Vanessa Jean, Dan Dan Lu, Saba Kabir, Nadia Khan, Jenna Lentini, Mario Michael, Sahil Millwala, Christian O'Brien, Rachel Olson, Rebekah Olson, Steven Persaud, Julia Poje, Rebecca Quinn, Aneesa Ra-feek, Christine Rai, Christina Roopnarine, Tina Sciortino, Michelle Sciortino, Stacy Steiner, Manar Swaby, Gabby Tsai, Nicole Vega, Michele Vidal, Nicole Silvers-tein, Ann Starling, Adriana Tringone, Sabah Waheed, Shery Waheed, Abdullah Dar and Abeer Zahid

**Choreographed By:** Saba Kabir, Yaaseen Hossen, Malik Hill, and Ann Starling



## Tagalog Ballad

The music of the Philippines is a mixture of European, American and indigenous sounds. Much of the music of the Philippines have been influenced by the 333-yearlong colonial legacies of Spanish music, Western rock and roll, and hip hop and pop music from the United States.

In the late 1950s, native performers wrote Tagalog lyrics for North American rock and roll music, resulting in the beginnings of Filipino rock.

Today, the Philippines is perhaps Asia's most vibrant music-obsessed country, with many home spawned bands. There has always been a blend of rock and easy-listening styles Filipino Rock, so it is not unusual for a single artist or group to have a wide repertoire and an equally wide range of fans. A retired businessman may find himself seated next to a teen girl at a concert, and outcheering her after a favorite song.

**Title of Piece:** Lani Misalucha – Bukas Na Lang Kita Mamahalin

**Performed By:** Christine Sicwatan



## Letter from the President

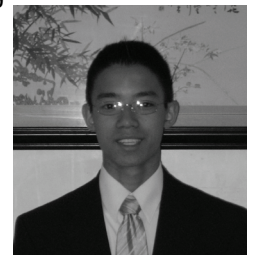
Family and Friends of the Cultural Society,

Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual World Cultural Night! The Cultural Society is extremely pleased to showcase the immense variety of acts planned for tonight. With awe inspiring singing acts, and eye catching dancing acts, the Cultural Society is proud to share with you the culture that each member has learned throughout the year.

Each member of the Cultural Society has dedicated countless hours learning the cultural traditions that will be displayed tonight. Often balancing mounds of school work, and demanding sports practices, members of the Cultural Society have remained steadfast in their goal to expand their cultural knowledge. As a whole, the Cultural Society has again surpassed expectations. With extremely successful events including St. Baldricks and Dinner Theater, the Cultural Society has, and will always continue to expand. Holding both a senior trip to Chinatown and a junior trip to New York City, the Cultural Society elucidated the diversity of culture in New York and provided a fun filled day of learning for all who were involved.

Tonight will surely be an exceptional night, but none of it would have been remotely possible without the steadfast dedication of our students, the support of our parents, and the painstaking hours that Mr. and Mrs. Hsi have spent making tonight perfect. Our students have been preparing these acts since the beginning of the school year, and are anxious to pass along their cultural knowledge to you, the Valley Stream Community. On that note, I hope you all enjoy that show and appreciate the culture that will be inundating the room.

Sincerely,  
Michael Hung  
President



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# Chinese Yo -Yo

The Chinese Yo-Yo is a toy from China consisting of two equally-sized discs connected by a long axle. The Chinese yo-yo is kept spinning on a string tied to two sticks at its ends. Each stick is held in one hand. It is used today as a children's toy and as a performance tool in juggling and sometimes in Chinese ethnic dance. It is possible to perform a large variety of tricks with the Chinese yo-yo including throwing the yo-yo up into the air or tossing it around the user's back.

**Performed By:** Michael Hung, Lisa Benison, Julia Poje, Colleen Poje, Shery Waheed, Safraz Bacchus, Derrick Ward, Lloyd Tanedo, Michael Yang, Kyle Agpalo, Wahaj Dar and Dylan Poje

**Choreographed By:** Michael Hung and Lisa Benison



## Step

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Stepping or step-dancing is a form of percussive dance in which the participant's entire body is used as an instrument to produce complex rhythms and sounds through a mixture of footsteps, spoken word, and hand claps. Though stepping may be performed by an individual, it is generally performed by groups of three or more, often in arrangements that resemble military formations.

**Performed By:** Kiandra Branford, Andrew Cohen, Malik Hill, Skylar Kettering, Shantea Moore, Sabah Waheed, Eric Jun, Vanessa Jean, and Mr. Jeffrey Hsi

**Choreographed By:** Kiandra Branford and Shantea Moore



## Bachata/Los Palos

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Bachata accompanies the music of the same name with its origins in the Republic. The dance is a four-step beat achieved with a walking Cuban hip motion, and a unique “pop”. Similar to Merengue, dips are not original to the dance and turns are done infrequently. The male leads the female with subtle communication using pushing and pulling on the hands to guide the direction in which to move or to hint on upcoming turns.

**Performed By:** Catherine Almonte, Laura Alzate, Samara Bustamante, Emily Caraza, Jonathan Gil, Nathalia Gil, Frankie Haggerty, Eduardo Martinez, Rebekah Olson, Natalia Palacio, Nicole Silverstein, Eddy DeMadet, Sebastian Gomez, Yaaseen Hossen, Juan Alzate, and Mario Michael

**Taught By:** Jonathan Gil

**Choreographed By:** Catherine Almonte

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Los Palos is considered the true Dominican Rural roots/ Pop religious type music and an extremely important genre. The music is mainly drum music made with drums made of hollowed-out logs.

**Performed By:** Catherine Almonte, Laura Alzate, Samara Bustamante, Emily Caraza, and Nathalia Gil

**Choreographed By:** Catherine Almonte and Samara Bustamante

## Tinikling

Tinikling is a Filipino folk dance that involves two people hitting bamboo poles in a beat—clap—clap sequence on the ground with one or more dancers who step over and in between the poles in a dance. It originated from the Visayan islands in central Philippines as an imitation of the tikling bird dodging bamboo traps set by rice farmers.

When the bamboo sticks hit each other they must hard enough to make a sound and the dancers must be quick enough to not get their feet caught as the sound of crashing bamboo thrills the crowd and the quickness of feet demonstrated by the dancers awes them.

**Performed by:** Colleen Poje, Julia Poje, Christine Sicwaten, Janine Sicwaten, Justin Cuyan, Gilbert Moy, Kyle Agpalo, Sabah Waheed, Lauren Betancourt, Laleina Libot, Jennifer Decastro, Lyra Joy Libot, Melanie Dejesus, Sarah Santos, Danielle Agpalo, Marie Agpalo, Abeer Zahid, Timberly Dinglas, Veronica Bohorquez, Shery Waheed and Skylar Kettering

**Choreographed By:** Skylar Kettering, Sabah Waheed, Justin Cuyan, Marie Agpalo, and Christine Sicwaten



## Korean Pop

Modern South Korean popular music first appeared in the 1930s, heavily influenced by Japanese popular songs. K-pop is similar to English pop music, with sub categories of R&B, dance, and hip-hop having gained much following in the 2000s. The popularity of K-pop is often considered a part of the rise of the Korean Wave, the recent surge of popularity of contemporary South Korean culture in Asia.

**Performed By:** Rebecca Quinn, Chelsea Vera, Chloe Donat, Staci Jogie, Peter Kim, Wahaj Dar, Eric Jun, Jessica Pak, Shery Waheed, Nicole Silverstein, Samara Bustamante, Aneesa Rafeek, and Sana Waheed.

**Taught By:** Peter Kim

**Choreographed By:** Jessica Pak





## Italian Opera

Italian opera is both the art of opera in Italy and opera in the Italian language. Opera was born in Italy around the year 1600 and Italian opera has continued to play a dominant role in the history of the form until the present day. Many famous operas in Italian were written by foreign composers, including Handel, Gluck and Mozart. Works by native Italian composers of the 19th and early 20th centuries, such as Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi and Puccini, are amongst the most famous operas ever written and today are performed in opera houses across the world.

**Title of Piece:** Giovanni Battista Bononcini – Per La Gloria D'adoravi

**Performed By:** Zoe Carpentieri and Shabad Sharpal



## Tarantella

The Tarantella is a southern Italian couple folk dance in 6/8 time, accompanied by tambourines. Its name comes from the town of Taranto, where it originated. It is among the most recognized of traditional Italian music. The dance varies from region to region, but has the same basic upbeat tempo.

The stately courtship tarantella is danced by a couple or couples, short in duration, gracefully and elegantly, and features characteristic music. The supposedly curative or symptomatic tarantella is danced solo by a supposed victim of a "tarantula" bite, agitated in character, may last for hours or even up to days, and features characteristic music. The confusion appears to arrive from the fact that the spiders, condition, its sufferers ("tarantolati") and the dances all derive their names from the city of Taranto.

**Performed By:** Frankie Haggerty, Gabby Arrigo, Tina Sciortino, Jenna Lentini, Samara Bustamante, Shamayal Jamil, Kristine Profeta, and Allen Kim

**Choreographed By:** Gabby Arrigo



## American Rock

American Rock is a catch-all for rock music genres either originating in the United States or specific to the Americas. Most often it contains elements of rhythm and blues, though a blending of styles over the years has occurred. American Rock music has had great success over the second half of the 20th century, with most of its recognizable success during the 50's, 80's, and 90's.

Jimi Hendrix is recognized as one of the greatest and most influential guitarists in rock music history. He headlined the iconic 1969 Woodstock Festival before his death in 1970, at the age of 27. Hendrix pioneered the technique of guitar feedback with over-driven amplifiers, incorporating into his music what was previously an undesirable sound.

**Performed By:** Mr. Steve Laquidara, Mr. Anthony Geremina, and Carlos Barrero



## Merengue

Merengue is a style of Latin American music and dance with a two- step beat. Partners hold each other in a closed position. Merengue was made the official music and dance of the Dominican Republic by Rafael Trujillo. Some say Merengue derived from the “paso de la empalizada”.

**Performed By:** Rebekah Olson, Rachel Olson, Jonathan Gil, Emily Caraza, Justin Orellana, Melissa Harananan, Frankie Haggerty, Samara Bustamante, Adriana Gerasimovich, Jeremy Cortez, Gabrielle Tsai, Debbie Medina, Laura Alzate, Moses Syldort, Nicole Vega, Jovanni Ortiz, Kristine Profeta, Juan Alzate, Tina Sciortino, and Brandon Rivero

**Choreographed By:** Laura Alzate Jaramillo and Debbie Medina





## Italian Accordion

The accordion is a portable box-shaped musical instrument of the hand-held bellows-driven free-reed aerophone family, sometimes referred to as a squeeze-box. A person who plays the accordion is called an *accordionist*. It is played by compressing or expanding a bellows, whilst pressing buttons or keys, causing valves called *pallets* to open which allow air to flow across strips of brass or steel called reeds that vibrate to produce sound inside the body of the instrument. The accordion is sometimes considered a "one-man-band", as it needs no accompanying instrument; the performer normally plays the melody on buttons or keys on the right-hand manual, and the accompaniment—consisting of bass and pre-set chord buttons—on the left-hand manual.

**Performed By:** Stefano Flavoni



## Bollywood Hip Hop

Hip-hop music first began to emerge when disc jockeys would create rhythmic beats by looping breaks (small portions of songs emphasizing a percussive pattern) on two turntables. This was later accompanied by "rapping" (a rhythmic style of chanting). An original form of dancing and particular styles of dress became popular among followers of this new genre of music. These elements experienced considerable refinement and development over the course of the history of the culture in the new millennium, American hip-hop has featured Indian Filmi and Bhangra. Mainstream hip-hop artists have sampled songs from the Bollywood movies and have collaborated with Indian artists.

**Performed By:** Asma Alvi, Mohammed Ansari, Sydney Bhagratti, Veronica Bohorquez, Samara Bustamante, Elia Cabrera, Nazahah Dar, Chetram Deochand, Amy Evron, Victoria Galante, Yaaseen Hossen, AJ Hossen, Vanessa Jean, Dan Dan Lu, Saba Kabir, Nadia Khan, Jenna Lentini, Sahil Millwala, Christian O'Brien, Steven Persaud, Aneesa Rafeek, Christine Rai, Tina Sciortino, Stacy Steiner, Nicole Silverstein, Sabah Waheed, Shery Waheed, Abeer Zahid, and Emily Caraza

**Choreographed By:** Saba Kabir, Malik Hill, Yaaseen Hossen, and Ann Starling



## Tap Dance

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Tap dance was developed in Brazil during the eighteenth century. Tap dancers are considered percussive musicians. Tap dancers make frequent use of syncopation. Choreography typically starts on the eighth or first beatcount. Another aspect of tap dancing is improvisation. This can either be done with music and follow the beats provided or without musical accompaniment, otherwise known as a cappella dancing. The name comes from the tapping sound made when metal plates on the dancer's shoes touches a hard surface.

**Performed By:** Sydney Bhagratti, Brittany Famighetti, Taylor Famighetti, Chris Faust, Kim Faust, Victoria Galante, Brooke Kern, Nadia Khan, Victoria Leib, Christian O'Brien, Rebekah Olson, Vagnola Pamphile, Nirali Patel, Michelle Sciortino, and Brianna Torres

**Choreographed By:** Mrs. Laura SantaMaria



## Chinese Fan Dance

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The Asian Fan Dance is a traditional dance usually performed by groups of female dancers. They use fans to represent images such as flowers, butterflies and waves. While this type of dance is performed throughout Asia, the attire for the fan dance can vary from country to country. In Korea, the attire for this dance is the traditional "Han-Bok" which is characterized by vibrant colors and simple lines. In China, there is more of a variety of costumes, including qi paos and decorative aprons.

**Performed By:** Lauren Betancourt, Jennifer Decastro, Melanie Dejesus, Laleina Libot, Colleen Poje, Sarah Santos, Nicole Silverstein and Skylar Kettering

**Choreographed:** Chinese Center of LI

**Taught By:** Mrs. Ellen Hsi



## Modern Ballet

Ballet is a formalized type of dance which originated in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century French courts, and which was further developed in England, Italy, and Russia as a concert dance form. The early performances preceded the intervention of the proscenium stage and were presented in large chambers with most of the audience seated on tiers or galleries on three sides of the dancing floor. The early ballet dancers were not as highly skilled as they are now. It has since become a highly technical form of dance with its own vocabulary. It is primarily performed with the accompaniment of classical music. It has been influential as a form of dance globally and is taught in ballet schools around the world, which use their own cultures and societies to further inform the art.

**Performed By:** Sydney Bhagratti, Samara Bustamante, Jaclyn Connonito, Brittany Famighetti, Kim Faust, Brooke Kern, Victoria Leib, Christian O'Brien, Vagnola Pamphile, Samantha Romero, and Brianna Torres

**Choreographed By:** Mrs. Laura SantaMaria



## Chinese Sword

Starting from the Han Dynasty, the sword played a less important role as a weapon and was more commonly used in dance. The most well known dance in which the sword was used as a main performance tool was Sword Dance. In the dance the single sword usually has tassels that can be as long as one meter. The tassels appear to “dance” in the process, adding lots of luster to the performance.. The movements of Sword Dance are elegant, with heroic bearing and abundant variations. The Chinese sword dance is focused on continuing movements that are even and tenacious, just like floating clouds and flowing water.

**Performed By:** Rebecca Quinn, Asma Alvi, Lloyd Tanedo, Malik Hill, Nazahah Dar, Peggy Ng, Tina Sciortino, Jenna Lentini, Christine Rai, and Shamayal Jamil

**Choreographed By:** Rebecca Quinn



## Mexican Hat Dance

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The Mexican Hat Dance is a folkdance from the Jalisco region, and is known for its vibrant colors in attire. Its choreography requires multiple couples with synchronized movement. The female costume is basically composed of a long, colorful, flowing skirt that is incorporated into the dance itself.

**Performed By:** Eddy Jr. Demadet, Jonathan Gil, Colleen Poje, Michelle Sciortino, Nicole Silverstein, Manar Swaby, Julia Poje, Emily Caraza, Rebekah Olson, Ms. Maureen Henry, Marcos Bustamante, Mr. Jeffrey Hsi, Steven Persaud, Samara Bustamante and Danny Guerrero

**Choreographed By:** Samara Bustamante



## Chinese Lion Dance

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The art of Chinese Lion Dance goes back some one thousand years. The lions represent joy and happiness. From the fourth day to the fifteenth of the Lunar New Year, lion dance groups would tour from village to village in traditional China. Both lions and dragons figure in New Year's Parades and other celebrations throughout the year.

The Lion Dance also plays an important role in the consecration of temples and other building, at business openings, planting and harvest times, official celebrations, and religious rites.

**Performed By:** Michael Hung, Juan Alzate, Nicholas Chong, Debbie Medina, Laura Alzate, Skylar Kettering, Catherine Almonte, Marcos Bustamante, Shery Waheed, Jeremy Cortez, Lloyd Tanedo, Steven Persaud, Mohammed Ansari, Marcello Olivera, and Michael Yang

**Choreographed By:** Randy Yung

**Taught By:** Juan Alzate and Nicholas Chong



## Swing Dance

Swing dance commonly refers to a group of dances that developed concurrently with the swing style of jazz music. The best known of these dances is the Lindy Hop, a popular partner dance that originated in Harlem and is still danced today.

The earliest forms of swing dance, such as the Black Bottom, Charleston and tap dance, are associated with Dixieland jazz, which developed in New Orleans. These sorts of dances traveled north with jazz to cities like New York, Kansas City, and Chicago during the era of the Great Migration, that began in the 1920's.

**Performed By:** Jonathan Gil, Catherine Almonte, Sonya Huang, Joshua Wall, Christian O'Brien, Nathalia Gil, Annie Paul, Natalia Palacios, Sebastian Gomez, Chase Scott, Rebekah Olson, Julia Poje, Frankie Haggerty, Adriana Gerasimovich, Moses Syldort, Alexandra Freeman, Jeremy Cortez, Juan Alzate, Nicole Silverstein, Samara Bustamante, David Ruvolo, Colleen Poje, and Mr. Jeffrey Hsi

**Choreographed By:** Mr. Jeffrey Hsi

**Taught By:** Julia Poje, Colleen Poje, and Mr. Jeffrey Hsi



## Ukulele

The ukulele is commonly associated with music from Hawai'i where the name roughly translates as "jumping flea." This is due to the action of one's fingers playing the ukulele resembling a jumping flea while plucking the ukulele's strings. According to Queen Lili'uokalani, the last Hawaiian monarch, the name means "the gift that came here", from the Hawaiian words *uku* (gift or reward) and *lele* (to come).

Developed in the 1880s, the ukulele is based on a small guitar-like instrument, the cavaquinho, introduced to the Hawaiian Islands by Portuguese immigrants. Three immigrants in particular, Madeiran cabinet makers Manuel Nunes, José do Espírito Santo, and Augusto Dias, are generally credited as the first ukulele makers. Two weeks after they landed aboard the *Ravenscrag* in late August 1879, the *Hawaiian Gazette* reported that "Madeira Islanders recently arrived here, have been delighting the people with nightly street concerts."

**Performed By:** Adriana Tringone





## Chinese Ribbon

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Chinese Ribbon dance emerged during the Tang Dynasty because the emperor once dreamed of a palace where he was surrounded by beautiful dancing fairies in colorful flowing robes. The emperor eventually demanded a dance with spectacular displays of long silk ribbons to make his dream come alive. The traditional Chinese ribbon dance, once performed only for royalty, is now popular among all audiences for its grace and beauty. These silk dancing ribbons can be beautiful when they float and undulate through the air.

**Performed By:** Asma Alvi, Veronica Bohorquez, Zoe Carpentieri, Chloe Donat, Amy Evron, Victoria Galante, Nichole Garcia, Dan Dan Lu, Elizabeth Mastro, Rebekah Olson, Rebecca Quinn, Christine Sicwaten, Joanne Sin, Manar Swaby, Chelsea Vera, Shery Waheed, Sana Waheed, and Sabah Waheed

**Choreographed By:** Mrs. Ellen Hsi

**Taught By:** Mrs. Ellen Hsi and Amy Evron



## Korean Ballad

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Ballad singing is a popular folk art among the Korean people. The art also involves narrating and role playing. The performance is in the form of a duet or ensemble to the accompaniment of flat drums. The tunes are based on Korean folk music or pansori (a solo opera performance), complemented by other melodies.

**Title of Piece:** *Nah Do Rah Ga*

**Performed By:** Isaac Lee

